



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In New York, prices were unchanged. However, in all other locations, prices were sharply lower on all sizes. Trade sentiment was unsettled beginning the week. Demand into all channels was moderate to very good, best where features were planned for the upcoming holiday. Supplies were better balanced in spot locations and ranged adequate to available. Breaking stock demand was light to moderate for adequate to ample offerings. Spent hens were generally sufficient for the mostly moderate demand. Slaughter schedules were noted as less than normal for this week.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL Prices delivered to retailer's warehouse were sharply lower. Prices to producers were unchanged. Trade sentiment was mixed, about steady to weak. Retail demand reported as improved in many areas and noted as moderate to very good. Loose egg demand was light to fairly good. Supplies were adequate to available. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were fully adequate to ample for the limited demand. Finished product demand slow to moderate. Trade sentiment barely steady to weak.

	RANGE	MOSTLY	IA-MN-WI - Prices paid to producers.	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	87-96	91-93	LARGE	70-77	72
LARGE	87-95	89-92	MEDIUM	52-56	54
MEDIUM	69-75	72-74	SMALL	38-40	

MIDWEST AREA: IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, OH, NE, ND, SD, WI, WV, Western NY, and Western PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were sharply lower on all sizes when compared to previous week's pricing. Trade sentiment was mixed entering the week. Demand improved in most areas and ranged moderate to very good. Supplies were adequate to available. Breaking stock offerings were adequate to fully adequate for the light to moderate demand. Spent hens were generally sufficient for the mostly moderate demand. Processing schedules were noted as less than normal.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	92-106	95-99
LARGE	89-103	94-98
MEDIUM	69-82	74-76

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, eastern NJ, eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL All prices were lower. Trade sentiment was in a full range, about steady to instances weak. Retail demand moderate to good and reported as improved. Food service movement was moderate to fairly good. Supplies remained fully adequate to available. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were fully adequate to ample for the limited demand. Finished product demand slow to moderate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment barely steady to weak.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	93.5-102	95-98
LARGE	92.5-101	94-97
MEDIUM	72.5-81	74-77

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR, AZ, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, and TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were sharply lower on all sizes when compared to previous week's values. Trade sentiment was barely steady beginning the week. Demand was moderate to good, best where features were a factor. Supplies were sufficient to available for current trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were adequate to fully adequate for the light to moderate demand. Light type fowl were generally sufficient for reduced processing schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	94.5-124.25	96-99
LARGE	93-122.25	94-97
MEDIUM	71-101.25	72-76

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, eastern TN, and southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged on all sizes. Trade sentiment was at best steady beginning the week. Demand was moderate to good. Supplies were fully sufficient for current trade requirements.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	103-107
LARGE	101-105
MEDIUM	81-85

CHICAGO & MIDWEST EGGS Prices were sharply lower. The market tone was barely steady. Retail demand was good to very good. Food service movement was moderate to fairly good. Supplies were fully adequate.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	93-101	95-97
LARGE	92-100	93-96
MEDIUM	74-83	77-79

see page 3 for prices on certified organic eggs in cartons

WESTERN Prices 20 cents lower on all sizes throughout the region. The Pacific region inventory was 11% lower than last Monday with California down 3% and Oregon- Washington-Utah down 26%. Retailer demand fairly good. Floor stocks ample.

CALIFORNIA Prices 20 cents lower on all sizes. The California inventory was 3% lower than last Monday. Retailer demand fairly good. Floor stocks ample. Small benchmark price 91. Ads in Northern California: major- extra large 18 pack 299, large 18 pack 299, 2 for \$5.

CALIFORNIA: California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	139
EXTRA LARGE	138
LARGE	130
MEDIUM	111

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	RANGE	NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	RANGE
JUMBO	299-399	JUMBO	309-429
EXTRA LARGE	289-359	EXTRA LARGE	329-419
LARGE	239-349	LARGE	269-399
MEDIUM	199-289	MEDIUM	229-339

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending April 09, 2004 will increase by 6 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending April 02, 2004 were 285,458 cases which was 11 percent above the prior week and 2 percent below estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	249,495	35,963	285,458

% change from the prior week.....	+13	-3	+11

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 14 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK All prices unchanged. Offerings were fully adequate to ample for the limited demand. An occasional buyer able to secure some breaking stock at prices lower than current range. Finished product demand slow to moderate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment barely steady to weak.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 AM, MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	64-70	64-65
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	56-62	56-58

CENTRAL STATES AREA:

AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI

SOUTHEAST LIVE HEAVY HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for offerings that were at least adequate. Processing schedules were reported as less than normal. Supplies of finished product were clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*

Final Price, generally for slaughter the week of 05-APR-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.25-10.25	8.75-9.25	8.97

AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING TOO FEW TO REPORT
FOB PLANT TOO FEW TO REPORT

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Prices were at near unchanged levels from the past week. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent hens. Schedules were normal. Finished sales were fair. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*

Final Price, generally for slaughter the week of 05-APR-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.25-12 CENTS/LB.	8.75-9.5	9.04

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-APR 05, 2004

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		Northeast	No Cent	So Cent	So Atl	Pacific	5-Area
Jumbo	Curr Wk	11.6	26.6	8.6	16.2	13.0	76.0
	Change	-0.4	-1.7	-2.0	-4.8	-3.2	-14%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	27.2	49.7	12.3	24.4	46.4	160.0
	Change	-8.4	-7.3	-1.8	-6.0	-3.5	-14%
Large	Curr Wk	63.6	144.3	107.6	124.3	180.9	620.7
	Change	-27.9	-52.1	-27.3	-23.5	-34.5	-21%
Medium	Curr Wk	13.1	54.4	17.2	25.0	42.3	152.0
	Change	-2.6	-4.6	1.4	0.3	3.4	-1%
Small	Curr Wk	3.2	8.0	3.1	6.4	4.8	25.5
	Change	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3	1.6	-0.8	0%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.4	27.0	12.3	16.4	7.0	67.1
	Change	-1.1	-1.8	0.6	2.5	1.6	3%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	16.1	46.9	19.4	27.4	32.3	142.1
	Change	-10.3	-4.3	-12.5	-9.3	-4.4	-22%
Total	Curr Wk	139.2	356.9	180.5	240.1	326.7	1243.4
Percent	Change	-27%	-17%	-19%	-14%	-11%	-17%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	1243.4	-17%	170
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	244.6	6%	35
Total Shell Egg	1488.0	-14%	205

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 170 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

CANADIAN EGGS MONTREAL: WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE TO RE-TAILERS (CANADIAN CENTS) GRADED IN CARTONS, AS REPORTED BY CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 30, 2004

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	1.93	1.90	1.81	1.16

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING MARCH 30, 2004 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	1.49	1.49	1.39	.77

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — DAILY WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR APRIL 02, 2004

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS								TOTAL LOADS											
16.25								3.50								19.75											
SE				NE				MW				SC				NW				SW				LOADS			
CLASS	ORG	DST		ORG	DST			CLASS	ORG	DST		ORG	DST			CLASS	ORG	DST		ORG	DST		ORG	DST			
GNR W 3	--	--		--	--		--	GL W J	72.00	--		--	--		--	GL W J	72.00	--		--	--		--	79.50	2.00		
GL W J	--	--		--	--		65.00	GL W XL	72.00	--		72.00	--		--	GL W XL	72.00	--		72.00	--		--	77.25	4.00		
GL W XL	--	--		--	79.50		69.20	GL W LG	--	--		--	--		--	GL W LG	--	--		--	--		--	74.75	4.00		
GL W LG	--	--		--	--		64.50	GL W MD	59.00	--		--	--		--	GL W MD	59.00	--		--	--		--	63.00	1.00		
GL W SM	48.00	49.50		--	--		43.00																				
NRBS - 48	--	--		--	--		--																				

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 03/29/04-04/02/04

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS								TOTAL LOADS							
71.00								86.25								157.25							
		SE		NE		MW					SC		NW		SW								
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS								
GNR W 1	82.00	84.25	77.25	81.25	--	--	12.00	GL W J	68.00	--	--	--	--	76.75	4.00								
GNR W 3	--	--	--	62.00	--	--	1.50	GL W XL	76.33	--	72.00	--	--	78.40	10.50								
GL W J	--	--	--	--	64.00	--	2.00	GL W LG	70.00	--	69.75	--	--	74.63	9.75								
GL W XL	--	109.38	91.70	89.86	72.24	78.40	35.25	GL W MD	63.33	--	--	--	--	68.21	4.00								
GL W LG	--	99.00	84.50	86.00	69.60	--	14.00	GL W SM	44.75	--	--	--	--	46.00	1.00								
GL W MD	68.00	--	60.67	62.86	60.00	--	7.75																
GL W SM	50.50	52.33	55.40	57.20	43.00	49.11	6.50																
GL BR LG	--	--	--	--	--	106.00	.75																
NRBS - 48	--	--	--	77.00	66.28	67.60	78.50																
NRBS - 42	--	--	--	--	--	64.00	2.00																
NRBS - 36	--	--	--	--	43.50	45.75	3.00																

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	03/29/04	03/22/04	03/31/03
PACIFIC COAST	170	164	224
LOS ANGELES	105	97	186

OUT OF STATE EGGS - STATE COMPILATION Report Date: 03/29/04

Report Period: 03/14/2004 - 03/20/2004

State	# Cases Shipped to			Total State
	Northern CA	Central CA	Southern CA	
Arizona	0	0	3,582	3,582
Colorado	810	2,430	3,229	6,469
Florida	0	0	900	900
Illinois	0	0	1,590	1,590
Indiana	0	810	2,430	3,240
Iowa	7,680	6,868	52,308	66,856
Maine	0	0	800	800
Michigan	0	780	4,356	5,136
Minnesota	1,560	3,160	7,941	12,661
Missouri	0	0	6,996	6,996
Nevada	0	0	660	660
North Carolina	0	400	3,270	3,670
Ohio	0	810	828	1,638
Oregon	4,263	1,778	0	6,041
Texas	0	0	1,650	1,650
Utah	1,703	1,890	9,785	13,378
Wisconsin	0	0	600	600
TOTAL	16,016	18,926	100,925	135,867
SHIPPED				
TO MILITARY	0	0	0	0
SHIPPED				
TO NONMILITARY	16,016	18,926	100,925	135,867

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS - UNAVAILABLE**CERTIFIED ORGANIC EGGS IN CARTONS**

(price per carton delivered to first receivers)

Brown Eggs	CENTS/CARTON	MOSTLY
Extra Large doz.	210 - 250	222 - 240
1/2 doz.	123 - 151	125 - 134
Large doz.	200 - 250	217 - 227
1/2 doz.	120 - 142	128 - 133

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS The market is lower on all sizes. The supply is adequate. Retail demand is moderate.

PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	112.45
LARGE	111.45
MEDIUM	90.45
SMALL	74.00

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